

DC Bicycle Advisory Council Meeting  
Wednesday, March 6, 2002, 6:00pm  
One Judiciary Square  
Room 1030

**MINUTES**

- 1) Minutes approved -- the minutes from the January 9 meeting were read and approved
- 2) Committee Assignments -- the BAC members present were asked to volunteer to join one or more of the three standing committees: Safety, Facilities and/or Legislative Affairs. Volunteers were as follows:

Safety--Carl Williams, Bill Schultheiss, Denise D'Amour, Lt. Burke, Meddie Bardonille, Conrad Smith, Jim Sebastian.

Facilities--Dan Barry, Chris Craig, Raymon Murchison, James Koski, Bill Schultheiss, Jim Sebastian

Legislative Affairs--Rudi Schreiber, Amy Nevel, Jacques Patterson, James Koski, Harry Jaffe, Dan Barry, Jim Sebastian.

- 3) Capital Bike Race -- Bill Schultheis and Stu Harris, representing the National Capital Velo Club, made a presentation regarding the possibility of the BAC endorsing and supporting a high level bike race in DC in 2002. The Velo Club has a 30-year history in DC, and has held benefit races in DC in the past in support of the National Childrens Musuem, and would like to organize a similar event this year. Organizers are hoping to expand the race, in terms of participants, prizes for winners and number of spectators. Mayor Williams would like a world class bike race in DC, and could be counted on to support and participate a well-organized world class race.

After lengthy discussion, the BAC voted to endorse the idea of a world class bike race in DC, and perhaps the National Childrens Museum race organized by the National Capital Velo Club. Mr. Schultheis agreed to draft a proclamation from the BAC endorsing the race.

- 4) Bicycle Plan Scope of Work -- Jim Sebastian updated the committee on the Bike Plan. The current consultants are working from the old bike plan to revise their understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of DC's current bicycling situation. The main element of this ongoing work is a thorough assessment of the bicycle compatibility of all DC streets. Once this assessment is completed, certain streets will be identified for improvements to enhance bike-friendliness.

The plan will be focused chiefly on roads and trails and other related facilities as opposed to safety issues. Jim suggested that the BAC could be helpful in providing input during the assessment phase, as well as by helping with outreach to the public as the assessment and ensuing publicity campaign unfold. Specifically, Jim suggested the scheduling of public meetings in each ward to be organized and attended by Jim and the appropriate BAC member.

Carl Williams suggested that such meetings be coordinated with the Mayor and with previously scheduled ANC meetings in order to be more efficient (and better attended).

A member of the public asked whether "bike trip counts" made by the consultants would be available. They will be.

Raymon Murchison asked whether road grades (hills) would be assessed and included in the plan. They will not be included in the analysis, but Jim indicated that such information is intended to be included in the updated DC bike map that will result from the analysis.

Jim suggested that he would make a fact sheet for use by BAC members as they contact their local Ward Councilmembers and ANC Commissioners to schedule meetings over the course of the spring and early summer.

- 5) Bike to Work Day -- Ellen Jones of the Washington Area Bicyclist Association made a presentation regarding "Bike To Work Day," scheduled for May 3, as well as several other bicycle-related events coming up in the next few months. Jim discussed the "Safe Streets Campaign" to be held during the month of May, and outlined a three-pronged campaign to raise awareness of safety issues for pedestrians and bicyclists. These will include informational pamphlets for bikers, pedestrians and drivers focused at the top ten crash sites in DC. The campaign will be conducted in conjunction with the police department.

Dan Barry asked whether informational materials could and would be provided to cab drivers and bus drivers during that time, whether police on bikes would be a feature of the campaign, and whether local commercial associations would be enlisted to help with the campaign.

- 6) Adjournment -- the meeting was adjourned after business was completed.